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AUSTRIA'S MAN OF DESTINY

FRANZ FERDINAND THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE.

The Aged Emperor's Heir May Prove a Menace to the Peace of Europe—Tragedy of Queen Maria Pia of Portugal—English Law and the Wife's Dresses—Day of the Pet Toy Dog Passing—Comedy of the Cholera—West Point's Portrait of Napoleon.

LONDON, Oct. 7.—A "diplomatic correspondent" with twenty years experience of Vienna contributes to the *Daily Mail* an analysis of the personality of Franz Ferdinand, heir to the throne of Austria, whose restless activity is working always in the background of Austrian policy, but of whom little is known outside his own country. He it is, says this writer, who is the ruling spirit of the Vienna Foreign Office. He remains in obscurity and is surrounded by that mystery which is his chief desire and the source of his power.

Franz Ferdinand rarely appears in public; he detests publicity. He has no more regard for the usual standing rules of international relations than he has for the aspirations of his countrymen. He has no interest whatever in popular movements or ambitions. The people are altogether beneath him.

Neither is there any love between him and the aged Emperor Franz Josef. But owing to the family laws of the Hapsburg dynasty the Emperor is forced not only to listen to what the Archduke Franz Ferdinand says but is also compelled to take his wishes into consideration, whatever they may be. The Emperor Franz Josef, who has ever been the personification of right and honor, allows his personal feelings to be put into the background and yields to what he considers his obligations as chief of the Hapsburg family toward the man who will one day succeed him as chief.

A tall good looking man, now in the forties, the Archduke has the long oval Hapsburg face and deep set blue gray eyes. He is an excellent horseman and likes to enjoy from time to time the life of a country gentleman on his large estates in Bohemia. He also takes an interest in archæology and with a liberal hand gives money to restore castles and historic buildings, chiefly in Bohemia. He is gifted musically.

After a courtship of several years he married the Countess Chotek, a governess in the family of Archduke Frederic, compelling, by the force of his indomitable will, the consent of the Emperor to this morganatic marriage. When the time comes, that same indomitable will will try to force the Austrian Government to consent to the marriage being accepted as real, conferring the rank of Austrian Empress upon the Countess and granting to her eldest son the right of succession.

So far as Hungary is concerned, he will probably find little difficulty. Hungarian lawyers hold that Hungarian law knows nothing of morganatic marriages and that the son of the Archduke born in such wedlock is entitled to the Hungarian crown.

The Archduke is a stanch Roman Catholic and a great friend to the Vatican. He and the German Emperor are also friends. Both regard themselves as men of destiny. The Kaiser loses no opportunity of endearing himself to Franz Ferdinand, and no doubt looks upon him as a trump card in the great international game which will begin in earnest when the aged Emperor Franz Josef passes from the scene.

The Archduke represents in temperament the old traditional reactionary spirit of Austria and is deeply hostile to the spirit and conditions of democracy.

All the men now at the head of Austrian affairs and of the common affairs of Austria-Hungary have been chosen in deference to the desires of the Archduke. But in Hungary the people are too strong for such compulsion, and politicians of all parties there see already in the personality of the Archduke an approaching menace to their liberties and constitutional rights.

In Austria the Prime Minister, Baron Beck, has been selected by Franz Ferdinand himself, and Baron von Aehrenthal is the Archduke's own mouthpiece. The Archduke particularly named him to the Emperor as Count Goluchowski's successor, and he was called away from the Austrian Embassy in St. Petersburg to become the head of Austro-Hungarian foreign politics. Ever since Baron von Aehrenthal has been at the head of affairs Austria has changed her policy of tact and peacefulness to a course of marked aggressiveness.

Whenever Baron von Aehrenthal has not been strong enough alone to get his way the Archduke has come on the scene himself. It will be remembered, for example, that the Archduke went personally to Budapest the other day to clinch matters concerning the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Franz Ferdinand, as a matter of fact, has been for a long time profoundly dissatisfied with what he considers the sleepy ways of Austrian foreign policy.

The article concludes by prophesying that when the Emperor Franz Josef dies Franz Ferdinand will become a greater power still and one may say a greater danger—a danger to the general peace of Europe and especially of England—a danger greater than Kaiser Wilhelm II., because the German Emperor never forgets his English connection, while Franz Ferdinand has no link whatever with the English royal family.

The news of Bulgaria's proclamation of independence coming on the day of Yom Kippur deprived the Stock Exchange of an important element, for the Jews were absent. The steadying that they might have given to the first movement of stocks was lacking, and there was also missed the more subtle influence that the great Jewish houses give by the belief in their resources for understanding a foreign situation. On the following day, when the house of Rothschild was in action again, the results were clear.

In the event of a fresh European conference the Jews will probably have a good deal to say. They have a serious grievance under the Berlin treaty. Under the treaty Rumania was pledged to give her Jewish subjects the full rights of citizenship, but throughout the thirty years that have passed since then she has disregarded her obligations.

A show of compliance with the treaty was made by the naturalization in a body of the 800 Jews who fought in the war against Turkey, but from 1881 to 1900 only eighty-five were admitted to the rank of citizenship. In addition to evading her treaty obligations in this respect Rumania has practised a systematic persecution of her Jewish subjects which is only second to that practised in Russia.

A series of restrictive laws was passed which resulted in making all vocations practised by Jews dependent on political rights, which only Rumanians possessed. Admission to the high schools and colleges has been made almost impossible and expulsions from rural districts have been frequent. Only six years ago Sir Marcus Samuel on his election as Lord Mayor of London refused to invite the Rumanian Minister to the historic Mayoral banquet.

Another West End theatre, it is said, will soon be pulled down and a music hall erected on the site. This is the Shaftesbury, where H. B. Irving shortly opens what will probably be the theatre's last season.

Ever since it was opened, only twenty years ago, the house has been looked upon as unlucky. The very first night started with misfortune. The first night audience was gathered in full force to celebrate the opening of the new theatre, but it had to be turned away because the iron curtain declined to rise.

In spite of its many misfortunes, however, the Shaftesbury has had some notable triumphs. A year after it was built the production of Henry Arthur Jones's play, "The Middleman," resulted in a triumph for E. S. Willard as well as for its author. Two years later the first performance in England of Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana" was given, while the triumph of "The Belle of New York" packed the theatre for over eighteen months.

The discoveries recently made by Dr. Garstang of the Liverpool Institute of Archæology, who has been excavating the great cemetery at Abydos, have far exceeded his expectations. Among the principal objects are some very fine specimens of early dynastic and prehistoric pottery and several specimens of miniature ivory carvings.

One of these is a small sphinx holding in its claws a captive whom it is about to devour. The figure appears to be an artistic improvement upon the lions devouring captives represented on the slate tablets which were found at Abydos some years ago. This little figure is the earliest representative of the sphinx hitherto discovered and seems to prove what has often been supposed, that this mythical monster was originally Asiatic in conception.

The chief discovery, however, is that of a tomb of the Hyksos or shepherd period, about 2000 B. C., the first that has ever been discovered. It contained a quantity of fine pottery of a non-Egyptian character.

The ware is black, beautifully glazed and as thin as porcelain. It is quite different from Egyptian workmanship and resembles the ware found in Syria and Asia Minor.

The discovery of this tomb affords important evidence showing that it is to the Hittite people, whose empire extended from the Euphrates to the Ægean and the site of whose capital is now marked by the mounds at Baghaz-Keui, that we must look for the home of the Hyksos, whose origin up to the present has been shrouded in mystery.

Magalhaes-Lima, director of a Republican journal of Lisbon, gives a painful account of the afflictions of Queen Maria Pia of Portugal, the mother of the murdered King Carlos.

Ever since the fatal day in February when she flung herself on the bleeding corpses of her son and grandson she has been mad. For a long time, an innocent Lady Macbeth, she saw blood on her hands, her clothing and all around her, and though that impression has now passed, she is always silent and gloomy, living in the vision of that terrible day. The one engrossing thought is undermining her life and it is thought her end cannot be far distant.

Queen Maria Pia is spoken of as being most popular, as popular as her daughter-in-law, the young King Manuel's mother, is the reverse. She is supposed to have absorbed liberal ideas from her father, King Victor Emmanuel, and though a good Catholic, she has always been anticlerical.

London's underground passenger traffic was tied up for some hours on Saturday afternoon by what turned out to be the most serious general dislocation since electric traction was adopted on the tube systems here.

Shortly before 3 o'clock, when thousands of people were on their way to football matches and other Saturday afternoon amusements, 160 tube trains were brought to an abrupt standstill owing to a short circuit at the main power station and over 30,000 helpless passengers were imprisoned in darkness at depths varying from 20 to 150 feet below the street surface.

At the same time the elevators at 102 subway stations, mostly full of travellers, hung motionless just where they happened to be. Every light went out and all the station clocks stopped.

The trouble was caused by what is technically known as a surge in the electric current, which fused a high tension cable at the big generating station at Chelsea, which is the most powerful in the world. It is twice the size of that at Niagara and serves five London electric subway systems besides several electric surface tram car lines. All these were paralyzed and all ordinary trains running in connection with the subways were thrown out of schedule.

The actual material damage done at the power house was less than $10, but the companies lost $5,000 in fares.

A strange coincidence was that at about the same time a similar mishap occurred in the generating station at Kingston, twelve miles from London. Curious minds are speculating whether the two accidents were caused by some electrical storm in the atmosphere produced by the extraordinarily hot weather England has been enjoying this month.

The curious legal point has been made this week in one of the London county courts that a wife's dresses are not necessarily her own absolute property, but that they may only be given to her by her husband for her lifetime. The question came up in an action arising out of a seizure under an execution of dresses supplied to a Chelsea woman by a firm of dressmakers.

The husband contended that the seizure was illegal, as he gave his wife the money to buy the dresses and they were accordingly his property. The Judge said that it had been laid down by the late Lord St. Helier when he was Sir Francis Jeune, president of the Divorce Court, that if a man presented his wife with articles of jewelry or clothing for use only during his lifetime and only to be used as what was legally termed "paraphernalia," such articles did not become the wife's absolute property.

It seems that the legal position is this: the term paraphernalia includes all wearing apparel and ornaments suitable to the wife's station in life which are given to her only to be worn as ornaments of the person only, but the term does not include family jewels or gifts from strangers. A wife cannot dispose of paraphernalia in the lifetime of her husband, nor can she dispose of them by will. The husband, even during his wife's lifetime, may sell or give her paraphernalia to strangers, and paraphernalia are also liable for the husband's debts.

It would be distinctly annoying to a wife to have her dresses seized at the instance of, say, the husband's cigar merchant, but that is how the English law stands to-day. The case recalls another decision given not long ago, that money saved by a wife out of her housekeeping allowance becomes the property of the husband, he having given it to her for a specific purpose and that purpose not having been fully carried out.

The day of the pet toy dog, an authority on feminine modes asserts, is over. The reason is not far to seek.

The toy dog, the æsthetic mind gravely explains, is out of harmony with the long graceful lines of the Directoire gowns. When his mistress wore a skirt of walking length Fido was no inconvenience, as she could then bestow all her care on him. But now the long sweeping tight skirt demands all her attention, so the little dog is a pleasure with which she must dispense.

What is worse, the tiny dog is completely out of the picture with a large umbrella hat. What fancy will take the place of the toy dog seems unsettled, but in Hyde Park there are just now more bulldogs than any other breed to be seen abroad in charge of smart women.

It certainly seems an incongruity that the postage on letters going 3,000 miles across the Atlantic to a country that is not a British colony should now be only two cents an ounce, while for letters that only have to travel the twenty-two miles that separate Dover from Calais people should still have to pay five cents.

Henniker Heaton, the indefatigable postal reformer, writes to the *Times* reviving in a novel manner his old advocacy of a universal penny postage. According to official returns the number of letters sent from the United Kingdom to foreign countries, excluding the United States, is roughly 50,000,000 annually. If the postage were reduced from five to two cents there would be a loss of $1,500,000.

Assuming, however, that the number of letters would be doubled, the loss in the first year would only amount to $500,000. Now, Henniker Heaton proposes that the Government should treat this matter on a business basis and sanction the issue of a universal penny postage loan of $5,000,000, which, he thinks, would be amply sufficient to meet the initial sacrifice of revenue and also to provide a sinking fund for paying off the loan in ten years.

Henniker Heaton seems, however, overoptimistic when he argues that "the stimulus of cheap postage would rapidly restore the languid British industries and enable British merchants to tap rich strata as yet unreached," for there is something more the matter with British trade than a two cent postage could cure.

The cholera scare has led to some comical situations at the Northern Railroad station in Paris, where travellers by the Nord Express from Russia are subjected to a rigorous disinfecting process.

One elderly gentleman of a pronounced

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